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REVISION

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Possibility of New United States Disarmament Proposals in the  
Eighth General Assembly

CONCLUSIONS:

Page 2, paragraph 5: Revise paragraph to read as follows:

"Despite the difficulties outlined above, it is advisable that the United States continue to demonstrate to the world its abiding desire for comprehensive and safe-guarded disarmament. The general desirability of such posture is heightened by the probability that the interest of our Allies in lessening international tensions and reducing the burden of armaments has been augmented by the announcement that the Soviets had exploded a hydrogen bomb or device on August 12, 1953. Such posture would also improve our ability to meet any Soviet moves in the General Assembly. Consequently, it is desirable for the United States to introduce in the General Assembly a proposal affirming the principles regarding world peace contained in the President's speech of April 16, 1953. (See Annex B.)"

RECOMMENDATIONS: (Page 3)

Revise the Recommendations to read as follows:

"1. In the Eighth General Assembly, the United States should review the record of its efforts in the United Nations to achieve agreement on disarmament, and forcefully emphasize that the proposals which the United States has already submitted in the Disarmament Commission, either unilaterally or in conjunction with the United Kingdom and France, provide a comprehensive approach to genuine disarmament negotiations which treats all elements of the problem.

"2. The United States should not initiate any new major substantive proposals on disarmament in the Eighth General Assembly, nor elaborate the existing substantive proposals already introduced in the United Nations by the United States, individually or joined by the United Kingdom and France.

"3. To maintain

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"3. To maintain United States initiative in the disarmament field, to demonstrate to the world our continued desire to achieve comprehensive and safe-guarded disarmament, and to anticipate Soviet proposals, the United States should introduce a proposal along the lines of Conclusion 5 above, reaffirming the sections of the President's speech dealing with the problem of disarmament and, in particular, the statement in that speech that as progress in the settlement of certain other political problems "strengthens world trust, we could proceed concurrently with the next great work -- the reduction of the burden of armaments now weighing upon the world."

COMMENT:

Page 11, paragraph 11, revise the second paragraph to read as follows:

"Despite these and other dangers, from this one standpoint of disarmament, it would be desirable for the United States to go ahead with an omnibus proposal, principally because our political position would suffer at this time by any indication that the United States lacks interest in disarmament or does not wish to take any initiative in this regard. The announcement that the USSR had exploded a hydrogen bomb or device on August 12, 1953 undoubtedly has stimulated our Allies' interest in this subject, already great. In the past, the clearly expressed United States desire to obtain agreement on a comprehensive disarmament program, plus the broad proposals which the United States has made on this subject and Allied participation in or support of these efforts, has been helpful in securing popular support for necessary rearmament efforts by demonstrating that Western desire for disarmament was rejected by the Soviets and left no alternative for the present but to maintain armed strength to insure security. Moreover, United States interest in disarmament has favorable impact on the so-called "neutralist" powers in counter-acting Soviet propaganda that the United States seeks war."

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